

REMARKS

Claims 21 and 27 have been amended to further define the present invention where the peg is rotatable with the actuating plate of the switch member. Turner relied upon by the Examiner to reject these claims shows a pivotal pawl 15 held in position by a biased pin 13 having a head 14, but it should be appreciated that pin 13 or spring 12 is not rotatable with a switch member as recited in the claims of the present application. It is then respectfully submitted that claims 21 and 27 and the claims which depend therefrom are in condition for allowance.

Claims 4 (which is part of amended claim 1), 15 and 30 have been amended to further define the present invention where the spring 62 is under tension when biasing the peg. Spring 12 in Turner relied upon by the Examiner to reject these claims is under compression to bias pin 13, and as such there is no need to attach spring 12 to the receptacle 11 in Turner. It is then respectfully submitted that claims 1, 15 and 30 and the claims which depend therefrom are in condition for allowance.

With respect to claims 8, 21 and 34, it is respectfully submitted that Turner and Kress show alternate manners of retaining a spring, and a person skilled in the art would select one or the other and not attempt to somehow modify one in view of the other. It is then respectfully submitted that claims 8, 21 and 34 are in condition for allowance for this separate and independent reason.

Cavities 18 and 19 of Arnold extend from the bottom surface whereas the hole 13 of the present invention extends from the first face and the cavity 14 extends from the hole intermediate the first and second faces. It should then be appreciated that the integral end wall sections of the present invention result in a stronger tool than when a retaining means 17 as in Arnold is utilized.

In a spirit of conciliation and to advance prosecution of this application, claims 20, 26, 35 and 39-41 have been amended to further define the present invention in a manner to distinguish over Hare, Arnold, Turner, Kress and Whiteford. It is then respectfully submitted that these claims and the claims which depend therefrom are in condition for allowance for this separate and independent reason.

With respect to the double-patenting rejection, it should initially be noted that neither Turner nor Tuttle teach the limitations recited in the claims of the present application as set forth previously and in contradistinction to the contention of the Examiner. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the double-patenting rejection has been overcome. Additionally, it should be appreciated that the claims of the present application and of Application No. 09/541,190 are directed to different inventive concepts and there is no overlap. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the double-patenting rejection has been overcome for this separate and independent reason.

The Examiner has cited the United States Patent listed in NOTICE OF REFERENCES CITED as C and E-L. By the lack of application of these references and others like them within the classes or subclasses searched (including but not limited to those cited in Appln. No. 09/541,190), the Examiner apparently recognizes the clear patentability of the present invention over any of these references.

Therefore, since the claims of the present application have been shown to include limitations directed to the features of applicant's reversible ratchet-type wrench which are neither shown, described, taught, nor alluded to in any of the references cited by the Examiner, whether those references are taken singly or in any combination, the Examiner is requested to allow claims 1, 7, 8, 11-16, 18-22, 24-27, 30, 31 and 33-49, as amended, of the present application and to pass this application to issue.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned if there are any obstacles to the allowance of the present invention so that such obstacles can be mutually resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 according to the following claim 1 (amended):

1. **(amended)** A reversible ratchet-type wrench comprising:

a handle;

a head extended from the handle and including a hole, a web being defined between the handle and the head, a cavity being defined in the web and communicated with the hole, the web further including a compartment having a first end communicated with the cavity and a second end communicated with outside, thereby leaving a bridge in the web;

a drive member rotatably mounted in the hole of the head, the drive member including a plurality of teeth formed on an outer periphery thereof;

a pawl mounted in the cavity and including a first side with a plurality of ratchet teeth for releasably engaging with the teeth of the drive member;

a switch member including a turn-piece for manual operation and an actuating plate extended from the turn-piece and rotatably received in the second end of the compartment of the web, the switch member being switchable between two positions for changing ratcheting direction of the drive member;

an elastic element and a peg [biasing means] mounted in the cavity and between the pawl and the actuating plate, with the peg being received in the elastic element and in the receptacle, with the peg and the elastic element being rotatable with the actuating plate, the pawl further including a second side with a recess, the peg having a first end movably received in the recess of the pawl and a second end, the elastic element biasing the second end of the peg for

exerting a force to the peg toward the pawl, thereby urging, [for biasing] the ratchet teeth of the pawl to engage with the teeth of the drive member, wherein the elastic element includes a first end received in the receptacle and a second end outside the receptacle and configured to be attached to the actuating plate, the second end of the peg being received in the elastic element, the first end of the elastic element being configured to bias the second end of the peg toward the recess of the pawl by having the elastic element under tension between the receptacle and the peg;

wherein an inner periphery defining the hole of the head includes a first annular groove, and wherein the outer periphery of the drive member includes a second annular groove; and

a C-clip received in the first annular groove and the second annular groove, thereby rotatably retaining the drive member in the head.

Please cancel claims 3 and 4 as being incorporated into claim 1 (amended).

Please amend claim 7 according to the following claim 7 (amended):

7. **(amended)** The reversible ratchet-type wrench as claimed in claim [4] 1, wherein the head includes a first face and a second face, with the hole extending from the first face towards but spaced from the second face, an integral end wall being defined in the head between the second face and the hole, an opening being defined in the integral end wall extending between the second face and the hole and having a smaller diameter than and concentrically within the hole, wherein the drive member includes a stub rotatably received in the opening, and wherein the drive member includes a drive column for releasably engaging with a socket and extending beyond the first face.

Please amend claim 8 according to the following claim 8 (amended):

8. The reversible ratchet-type wrench as claimed in claim [3] 1, wherein the [actuating plate of the switch member includes a first receptacle that faces the cavity, the first] receptacle [having] has a first end wall, the second end of the peg being received in the [first] receptacle and including [a second] another receptacle with a second end wall, the elastic element having two ends that are attached between the first end wall and the second end wall.

Please amend claim 15 according to the following claim 15 (amended):

15. **(amended)** A reversible ratchet-type wrench comprising:

a drive member including a plurality of teeth formed on a periphery thereof;

a pawl including a first side with a plurality of ratchet teeth for releasably engaging with the teeth of the drive member, the pawl further including a second side with a recess;

a rotatable switch member including a turn-piece for manual operation and an actuating plate extended from the turn-piece, the switch member being switchable between two positions for changing ratcheting direction of the drive member; and

a biasing means between the recess of the pawl and the actuating plate for biasing the ratchet teeth of the pawl to engage with the teeth of the drive member, the biasing means including an elastic element and a peg, the peg having a first end movably received in the recess of the pawl and a second end, the elastic element biasing the second end of the peg for exerting a force to the peg toward the pawl, thereby urging the ratchet teeth of the pawl to engage with the teeth of the gear wheel;

the actuating plate of the switch member including a receptacle, the elastic element including a first end received in the receptacle and a second end outside the receptacle and configured to be attached to the actuating plate, the second end of the peg being received in

the elastic element, the first end of the elastic element being configured to bias the second end of the peg toward the recess of the pawl by having the elastic element under tension between the receptacle and the plug.

Please amend claim 20 according to the following claim 20 (amended):

20. (amended) The reversible ratchet-type wrench as claimed in claim 46, wherein the web includes a first face and a second face, with the cavity formed in the web and located between and spaced from the first and second faces, with the cavity including an arcuate wall extending from intersecting points with the hole and generally perpendicular to the first and second faces and including planar ends extending generally parallel to and spaced from the first and second faces, with first and second end wall sections being defined between the planar ends and the first and second faces and between the arcuate wall and the hole and being integral with the web, with the arcuate wall having a radius from a center and less than that of the hole, with the center of the arcuate wall located in the hole and with the intersecting points being spaced less than two times the radius, wherein the compartment of the web extends from the second face towards but spaced from the first face and has a first end communicated with the cavity and a second end communicated with outside at the second face, thereby leaving an integral [a] bridge in the second end wall section of the web.

Please amend claim 21 according to the following claim 21 (amended):

21. A reversible ratchet-type wrench comprising:

a handle;

a head extended from the handle and including a hole, a web being defined between the handle and the head, a cavity being defined in the web and communicated with the hole, the web further including a compartment communicated with the cavity;

a drive member rotatably mounted in the hole of the head, the drive member including a plurality of teeth formed on an outer periphery thereof;

a pawl mounted in the cavity and including a first side with a plurality of ratchet teeth for releasably engaging with the teeth of the drive member, the pawl further including a second side with a recess;

a switch member including a turn-piece for manual operation and an actuating plate extended from the turn-piece and rotatably received in the compartment of the web, the switch member being switchable between two positions for changing ratcheting direction of the drive member, wherein the actuating plate of the switch member includes a first receptacle that faces the cavity; and

a biasing means mounted in the cavity and between the recess of the pawl and the actuating plate for biasing the ratchet teeth of the pawl to engage with the teeth of the drive member, the biasing means including an elastic element and a peg, with the peg being received in the elastic element and in the first receptacle, with the peg and the elastic element being rotatable with the actuating plate, the peg having a first end movably received in the recess of the pawl and a second end, the elastic element biasing the second end of the peg for exerting a force to the peg toward the pawl, thereby urging the ratchet teeth of the pawl to engage with the teeth of the gear wheel;

[the actuating plate of the switch member including a first receptacle that faces the cavity,] the first receptacle having a first end wall, the second end of the peg being received in the first receptacle and including a second receptacle with a second end wall, the elastic element having two ends that are attached between the first end wall and the second end wall.

Please amend claim 26 according to the following claim 26 (amended):

26. **(amended)** The reversible ratchet-type wrench as claimed in claim 21, wherein the web includes a first face and a second face, with the cavity formed in the web and located between and spaced from the first and second faces, with the cavity including an arcuate wall extending from intersecting points with the hole and generally perpendicular to the first and second faces and including planar ends extending generally parallel to and spaced from the first and second faces, with first and second end wall sections being defined between the planar ends and the first and second faces and between the arcuate wall and the hole and being integral with the web, with the arcuate wall having a radius from a center and less than that of the hole, with the center of the arcuate wall located in the hole and with the intersecting points being spaced less than two times the radius, wherein the compartment of the web extends from the second face towards but spaced from the first face and has a first end communicated with the cavity and a second end communicated with outside at the second face, thereby leaving an integral [a] bridge in the second end wall section of the web.

Please amend claim 27 according to the following claim 27 (amended):

27. **(amended)** A reversible ratchet-type wrench comprising:

a handle;

a head extended from the handle and including a hole, a web being defined between the handle and the head, a cavity being defined in the web and communicated with the hole, the web further including a compartment communicated with the cavity;

a drive member rotatably mounted in the hole of the head, the drive member including a plurality of teeth formed on an outer periphery thereof;

a pawl mounted in the cavity and including a first side with a plurality of ratchet teeth for releasably engaging with the teeth of the drive member, the pawl further including a

second side with a recess;

a switch member rotatably received in the compartment of the web, the switch member being switchable between two positions for changing ratcheting direction of the drive member;

a biasing means mounted in the cavity and having a first end slidably received in the recess of the pawl and a second end attached to the switch member for biasing the ratchet teeth of the pawl to engage with the teeth of the drive member, wherein the switch member includes a turn-piece for manual operation and an actuating plate extended from the turn-piece and rotatably received in the compartment of the web, the actuating plate of the switch member includes a receptacle that faces the cavity, wherein the biasing means includes an elastic element and a peg, with the peg being received in the elastic element and in the receptacle, with the peg and the elastic element being rotatable with the actuating plate, the peg having a first end movably received in the recess of the pawl and a second end, the elastic element biasing the second end of the peg for exerting a force to the peg toward the pawl, thereby urging the ratchet teeth of the pawl to engage with the teeth of the gear wheel;

wherein an inner periphery defining the hole of the head includes a first annular groove, and wherein the outer periphery of the drive member includes a second annular groove; and

a C-clip received in a first annular groove and the second annular groove, thereby rotatably retaining the drive member in the head.

Please cancel claim 29 as being incorporated into claim 27.

Please amend claim 30 according to the following claim 30 (amended):

30. The reversible ratchet-type wrench as claimed in claim 27 [29], wherein [the

switch member includes a turn-piece for manual operation and an actuating plate extended from the turn-piece and rotatably received in the compartment of the web, the actuating plate of the switch member includes a receptacle that faces the cavity,] the elastic element [including] includes a first end received in the receptacle and a second end outside the receptacle and configured to be attached to the actuating plate, the second end of the peg being received in the elastic element, the first end of the elastic element being configured to bias the second end of the peg toward the recess of the pawl by having the elastic element under tension between the receptacle and the peg.

Please amend claim 35 according to the following claim 35 (amended):

35. **(amended)** The reversible ratchet-type wrench as claimed in claim 30, wherein the web includes a first face and a second face, with the cavity formed in the web and located between and spaced from the first and second faces, with the cavity including an arcuate wall extending from intersecting points with the hole and generally perpendicular to the first and second faces and including planar ends extending generally parallel to and spaced from the first and second faces, with first and second end wall sections being defined between the planar ends and the first and second faces and between the arcuate wall and the hole and being integral with the web, with the arcuate wall having a radius from a center and less than that of the hole, with the center of the arcuate wall located in the hole and with the intersecting points being spaced less than two times the radius, wherein the compartment of the web extends from the second face towards but spaced from the first face and has a first end communicated with the cavity and a second end communicated with outside at the second face, thereby leaving an integral [a] bridge in the second end wall section of the web.

Please amend claim 39 according to the following claim 39 (amended):

39. **(amended)** The reversible ratchet-type wrench as claimed in claim 27, wherein the web includes a first face and a second face, with the cavity formed in the web and located between and spaced from the first and second faces, with the cavity including an arcuate wall extending from intersecting points with the hole and generally perpendicular to the first and second faces and including planar ends extending generally parallel to and spaced from the first and second faces, with first and second end wall sections being defined between the planar ends and the first and second faces and between the arcuate wall and the hole and being integral with the web, with the arcuate wall having a radius from a center and less than that of the hole, with the center of the arcuate wall located in the hole and with the intersecting points being spaced less than two times the radius, wherein the compartment of the web extends from the second face towards but spaced from the first face and has a first end communicated with the cavity and a second end communicated with outside at the second face, thereby leaving an integral [a] bridge in the second end wall section of the web.

Please amend claim 40 according to the following claim 40 (amended):

40. **(amended)** A head for a ratcheting tool with a handle, a web being defined between the head and the handle, the head comprising a hole extending from a first face towards but spaced from a second face, an integral end wall being defined in the head between the second face and the hole, an opening being defined in the integral end wall extending between the second face and the hole and having a smaller diameter than and concentrically within the hole, a cavity being defined in the web between and spaced from the first and second faces and communicated with the hole, with the cavity including planar ends extending generally parallel to and spaced from the first and second faces, with first and second wall sections being defined between the planar ends and the first and second faces and being integral with the web, the web

further comprising a compartment extending from the second face towards but spaced from the first face and having a first end communicated with the cavity and a second end communicated with outside at the second face, thereby leaving an integral [a] bridge in the second end wall section of the web at the second face and located between the hole of the head and the second end of the compartment.

Please amend claim 41 according to the following claim 41 (amended):

41. **(amended)** The ratcheting tool head as claimed in claim 40, wherein the cavity further includes an arcuate wall extending from intersecting points with the hole and generally perpendicular to the first and second faces [and includes planar ends extending generally parallel to and spaced from the first and second faces], with the first and second end wall sections being defined between the arcuate wall and the hole, with the arcuate wall having a radius from a center and less than that of the hole, with the center of the arcuate wall located in the hole and with the intersecting points being spaced less than two times the radius.